

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Executive Registry

82-12164/1

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

27 September 1982

NOTE FOR: Michael O. Wheeler  
Staff Secretary  
National Security Council

Mike:

Per your request, attached are  
comments on the Richard Pipes lecture  
forwarded by your memorandum dated  
23 September 1982.



Executive Secretary

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NSC review completed.



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Notes on Pipe's Speech

Page 4: "Decline of Soviet economic growth" vice "Decline of the Soviet economy."

--growth of GNP in the 1950s "almost 6 percent per year"

--now less than 2 percent per year

--coming decade, growth likely to remain below 2 percent

Page 4: Capital investments aren't being drastically reduced; their rate of growth has been cut markedly.

--Soviet worker produces only two-fifths as much as his American counterpart

Page 5: Low productivity was a serious problem in Russia in 1980. Because of low productivity, Russia was still poor and backward.

"Improvements in Soviet production," vice "Improvements in Soviet productivity."

Agricultural production has increased in the past 17 years by 33 percent (1965-81) according to our calculations. The point is that the investment costs have been extremely high, and the supply of agricultural products is still not sufficient to satisfy rising consumer demands.

Machinery imports from West have had a decided impact on the industries which received them.

Page 7: No evidence that productivity of voluntary brigades plus sobashniki is twice that of ordinary workers. Probably much less.

Page 13: Allocations to total capital investment and consumer-oriented investment increased in both the 9th and 10th five-year plans.

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT****Routing Slip**

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**Remarks:**

Please forward any comments to me  
MLT 1500 27 September. Negative replies  
requested.

Executive Secretary

24 September 1982

Date

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82-12164

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506UNCLASSIFIED with  
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September 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR

[Redacted]  
Executive Secretary  
Central Intelligence Agency

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SUBJECT: Lecture to be given by Richard Pipes

Attached is the text of Richard Pipes' lecture on the Soviet crisis to be given under USIA auspices in Bonn and Paris. The forum in Bonn will be either the German Council on Foreign Relations or the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; in Paris it will be the Institut Francais des Relations Internationales. We would appreciate your comments by close of business on Monday, September 27, 1982.

*Michael O. Wheeler*Michael O. Wheeler  
Staff Secretary

Attachment:

Lecture on "The Soviet Union in Crisis"

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L288

**CONFIDENTIAL**THE SOVIET UNION IN CRISIS

by Richard Pipes

I am confident that the subject of greatest interest to an audience such as this is practical politics, which in the case of an address by a Soviet specialist means United States policies toward the Soviet Union. From this perspective, the topic of my talk -- "The Soviet Union in Crisis" -- may appear academic. It is not. To the extent that it seeks to influence a country's behavior, the foreign policy of the United States toward that country must be formulated on the basis of knowledge of what it is and where it is going. Thus, we want to make certain that our policies toward the Soviet Union can be justified in terms of Soviet developments rather than of our own wishes or fears. If the premise of my address is correct, namely that the USSR is in the midst of an acute crisis of its governing system, then it is doubly incumbent on us to turn our eyes in this direction, because the possibilities of doing good or harm with our initiatives are at present greater than ever.

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